

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [01] beginning at page 1, line 5, with the following:

--[01] The present application claims benefit of priority to the following applications: U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/459,491, filed March 31, 2003; U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/552,454 ~~60/\_\_\_\_~~, filed March 12, 2004 (Attorney Docket No. 022101-000210US); and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/555,530, ~~60/\_\_\_\_~~, filed March 22, 2004 (Attorney Docket No. 022101-000220US), each of which is incorporated by reference in their entirety for any purpose.--

Please replace paragraph [70] beginning at page 16, line 29, with the following:

--[70] Figure 1 presents a region of conserved sequence, identified as SEQ ID NO.: 1, in the 3' untranslated region of the genomes of the flaviviruses that can be detected using the compositions and methods of the present invention and that can be bound by a primer of the invention. SEQ ID NO.: 2 represents the complement of SEQ ID NO.: 1. Flavivirus AF196835 = SEQ ID NO:71.--

Please replace paragraph [71] beginning at page 16, line 33, with the following:

--[71] Figure 2 presents a region of conserved sequence, identified as SEQ ID NO.: 9, in the 3' untranslated region of the genomes of the flaviviruses that can be detected using the compositions and methods of the present invention and that can be bound by a primer of the invention. SEQ ID NO.: 10 represents the complement of SEQ ID NO.: 9. Flavivirus AF196835 = SEQ ID NO:72.--

Please replace paragraph [72] beginning at page 17, line 3, with the following:

--[72] Figure 3 presents a region of conserved sequence, identified as SEQ ID NO.: 16, in the 3' untranslated region of the genomes of the flaviviruses that can be detected using the compositions and methods of the present invention and that can be bound by a probe of the invention. SEQ ID NO.: 17 represents the complement of SEQ ID NO.: 16. Flavivirus AF196835 = SEQ ID NO:73.--

Please replace paragraph [73] beginning at page 17, line 7, with the following:

--[73] Figure 4 presents an alignment of the nucleic acid sequences (SEQ ID NOS:7, 15 and 16) of the oligonucleotides of the invention with nucleic acid sequences of Japanese encephalitis virus serogroup members.--

Please replace paragraph [74] beginning at page 17, line 10, with the following:

--[74] Figure 5 presents an alignment of the nucleic acid sequences (SEQ ID NO:16) of the oligonucleotides of the invention with nucleic acid sequences of detectable flaviviruses that are not members of the Japanese encephalitis virus serogroup.--

Please insert the accompanying paper copy of the Sequence Listing, page numbers 1 to 21, at the end of the application.